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REMARKS

In view of the following discussion, the Applicants submit that none of the claims now pending in the application is anticipated under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 102 or made obvious under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 103. Thus, the Applicants believe that all of these claims are now in allowable form.

I. CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 4 stands objected to for informalities. However, the Applicants submit that the objection to claim 4 is moot in light of the cancellation of claim 4. Thus, the Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claim 4 be withdrawn.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 3 AND 12 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 3 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. However, the Applicants submit that the rejection of claims 3 and 12 is moot in light of the cancellation of claims 3 and 12. Thus, the Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 3 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 be withdrawn.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 4-10 AND 13-21 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4-10 and 13-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the Mahany patent (United States Patent No. 5,960,344, issued on September 28, 1999, hereinafter "Mahany"). However, the Applicants submit that the rejection of claims 1, 4-10 and 13-21 is moot in light of the cancellation of claims 1, 4-10 and 13-21. Thus, the Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1, 4-10 and 13-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

IV. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 2- 3 AND 11-12 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103**A. Claims 2 and 11**

The Examiner rejected claims 2 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mahany in view of Official Notice. However, the Applicants submit

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that the rejection of claims 2 and 11 is moot in light of the cancellation of claims 2 and 11. Thus, the Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 2 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

B. Claims 3 and 12

The Examiner rejected claims 3 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mahany in view of the Vossler patent (United States Patent No. 5,978,214, issued November 2, 1999, hereinafter "Vossler"). However, the Applicants submit that the rejection of claims 3 and 12 is moot in light of the cancellation of claims 3 and 12. Thus, the Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 3 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

V. NEW CLAIMS

The Applicants have added new claims 22-34, drawn to a method for managing network communications in accordance with the present invention. The Applicants submit that new claims 22-34 are patentable in light of the references cited by the Examiner, including, but not limited to, Mahany and Vossler.

In particular, the Applicants submit that none of the cited references, individually or in combination with other references, teaches, shows or suggests using a point-to-point communication medium to enable or configure the use of a shared medium between two or more networked devices, as claimed in new independent claim 22, from which claims 23-34 depend.

VI. CONCLUSION

Thus, the Applicants submit that all of the presented claims now fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103. Consequently, the Applicants believe that all the presented claims are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring


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the issuance of a final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Mr. Kin-Wah Tong, Esq. at (732) 530-9404 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

6/6/05
Date

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